

Disabilities Advisory Council

The Disabilities Advisory Council (DAC) provides a forum on issues pertaining to disabilities. The Council coordinates comprehensive social services; identifies, collects and analyzes data; and assesses and prioritizes the resources and needs within Mercer County. In addition, the Council advocates for the consumer as a means to improve the quality of services for residents with disabilities.

The Council meets quarterly and is composed of eleven volunteers, many of whom have a Disability, as well as those working in disability services.

Mercer County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Ann M. Cannon

Pasquale Colavita

Keith Hamilton

Tony Mack

Elizabeth Maher-Muoio

Lucylle R. S. Walter

Anthony Carabelli

Brian M. Hughes

Mercer County Executive

Marygrace Billek

Director Department of Human Services

Board of Chosen Freeholders

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Elizabeth Maher Muoio

Lucylle R.S. Walter

The Mercer County Department of Human Services is a county government agency that serves as an advocate for all Mercer County residents. It includes:

Community Services Division

Community Centers and Childcare Services

Homeless Services

Office on Aging

Office on Children and Youth Services

Office for the Disabled

Health and Behavioral Health Division

Health Office

Municipal Alliance Office

Office on Addiction Services

Office of Mental Health Services

Mercer County Geriatric Center

Mercer County Library System

Mercer County Youth Detention Center

For more information on the Department of Human Services, please call (609) 989-6526.

OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

*We empower people with
disabilities*



**BRIAN M. HUGHES
COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**640 South Broad St.
Trenton, NJ 08650**

Established 1984

*The **MERCER COUNTY OFFICE ON DISABILITY SERVICES** provides information on comprehensive services to County residents who are developmentally delayed or physically disabled and are designed to provide support for these individuals and/or their families.*

SERVICES

General Information & Assistance

The Office on Disability Services serves as a central source of information about services and programs available to Mercer County residents with disabilities to facilitate their full participation in community life.

Appropriate referral, coordination and advocacy services are provided by the Office to assist individuals concerning a wide range of issues including:

- Employment
- Housing
- Barrier-free access
- Recreation
- Transportation

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assistance

Affords qualified individuals with disabilities safeguards against discrimination based upon disability in employment, state and local government, public accommodations, telecommunications and transportation. ADA-related information and assistance is provided, at no cost, to private and public sector entities as well as the public. Contact our office at

PROGRAMS

Personal Assistance Services Program

The *Personal Assistance Services Program* (PASP) is designed to provide services to individuals with disabilities. These services enable adults that are disabled prepare for employment, attend school or live independently in the community. Services differ from traditional home health services in that they are consumer directed and supervised and are considered to be social, rather than a health care service. Individuals should meet the following eligibility standards:

a resident of the State of New Jersey

- chronically, physically disabled
- between the ages of 18 through 65
- be self-directing

Developmentally Disabled

The *Mercer County Office on Disability Services - Developmental Disabilities* (MCODS DD) area provides the necessary vocational,

personal and social skills to achieve a certain degree of independence, while improving the quality of life for each individual. To this end, MCODS DDD area provides centralized information and referral, as appropriate. Other services such as employment and occupational training services, developmental day care, family support services through respite, clinical services for pre-school children and extensive case management are offered through arrangements made with the appropriate agencies.

Physical Disabilities

Programs that facilitate the provision of community-based recreation and transitional services in integrated settings for County residents with disabilities whose needs are not met through traditional programs are part of the offerings sponsored by this Office. The spectrum of services for this program area includes:

- Information and Referral
- recreation opportunities
- specialized employment training
- job readiness